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TEMBLOR, FIRE, STRIKE.

It would seem as though San Francisco had had enough to contend with, with her earthquake and fire, and the subsequent desolation that followed them; but now, to cap the climax of desultory experiences, the only element of her commercial life that largely escaped the ruin that engulfed all else, is tied hand and foot by a strike that was as needless as it was inopportune. The sailors on the coast steam schooners and kindred craft, were, and are, among the best paid tradesmen on the coast, and drew on pay day, a sum equivalent to the income of most of the best trained and equipped business men in the same territory. They were well-fed and well-housed, and their work was no harder, in time and kind, than tens of thousands of men are doing for one-half the compensation in the mills and factories of the west. It looks very much like another manifestation of the so-called "union cinch," a policy that is certain to cut the safe ground from beneath the organic feet of unions if it is permitted to go much farther.

AS THE PEOPLE SAY.

The Morning Astorian does not pose as an organ, nor assume the functions of a private herald, nor is it inspired by any selfish purpose when it demands the abatement and regulation of certain obnoxious lines of business, in this city: It simply expresses, as nearly as may be, the consensus of popular opinion on a popular subject. The people of Astoria, as a whole, have the sole say-so in the matter, and whatsoever trend their dictum shall take in this, or any other, large question of municipal import, this paper will announce it in plain terms as soon as it is made determinable. That is all!



The American Habit of Extravagance

By **STUYVESANT FISH**, President Illinois Central Railroad

IN the household no one will question that our people are spend-thrifts, earning money freely and wasting it to such an extent as to make it proverbial that what is thrown out of our kitchens would support **FRUGAL PEOPLE** in almost any country in Europe. While we have in recent years become in no small measure manufacturers, we are still essentially an agricultural people, producing from the soil more than we consume and exporting the surplus; hence, any sum, however small, which on the average is saved by each citizen redounds to the benefit of all by increasing our **ACCUMULATED capital.**

Turning to our general or public economy, no one can examine appropriations made by congress, by the state legislatures and by our municipal governments without appreciating that there is in each a conspicuous **AND GROWING** lack of economy. There are not only waste and extravagance in administration and what is now commonly called graft, which is a combination of bribery and larceny, but what is economically worse, the laws are so framed as not to get the best use out of the taxes paid by the people.

WHAT WE HAVE TO FEAR IS NOT SO MUCH THE MAGNITUDE OF THE APPROPRIATIONS AS THAT OUR LAWS REQUIRE THAT UNECONOMICAL AND, THEREFORE, BAD USE BE MADE OF THEM.

I need not repeat that the country is prosperous and likely to so continue. While fully appreciating these facts, we cannot shut our eyes to the trouble that has been going on in the **CENTER** of our financial system. Much has been said in the press, not only at the west, but even in conservative Boston, which reminds us of the old fable of the quarrel which the various members of the human body had with the stomach, for, after all, we must admit that it is in Wall street that securities are **DIGESTED.**

With most of what has been said in violent denunciation of anything and everything in Wall street I can have no sympathy, although, on the other hand, we must admit that **MUCH IS WRONG** there. The situation may be illustrated by a rather unpleasant simile. Throughout all time men have had trouble with their digestive processes until in our day much from which our fathers had ignorantly suffered as pain or inflammation in these parts has been distinctly diagnosed as coming from the vermiform appendix, and modern surgery has in thousands of cases succeeded in **SAFELY REMOVING** that rudimentary and useless organ, to the great relief of the race. Having looked into the matter myself somewhat carefully of late, I say in all seriousness that not only in the insurance companies, but in many other corporations, there is need of the advice and probably of **THE KNIFE** of the **TRAINED** surgeon.

There is wrong in the management of many corporations, and it should be removed, cost what it may, for the benefit alike of the patient and of the community. Without pretending to any superior knowledge on the subject, but having given to it thought not only of late, but for years past, with respect to corporations generally, I think that **THE ROOT OF THE EVIL** lies in too few men having undertaken to manage **TOO MANY** corporations; that in so doing they have perverted the powers granted under corporate charters in their hurry to do a vast business.

While the evil applies to corporations generally throughout the whole country, my meaning can perhaps be best illustrated by taking the case of the three great life insurance companies in New York—the Mutual, the New York Life and the Equitable. A year ago these three companies had, as shown in the 'Directory of Directors' published by the Audit Company of New York, ninety-two trustees or directors **WHO LIVED IN NEW YORK.** Of them one was a member of seventy-three boards, another of fifty-eight, another of fifty-four, another of fifty-three, another of forty-nine, another of forty-seven, another of forty-three and another of forty-one.

AND TO SUM UP, THOSE NINETY-TWO GENTLEMEN HELD FOURTEEN HUNDRED AND THIRTY-NINE DIRECTORSHIPS IN CORPORATIONS WHICH WERE SUFFICIENTLY WELL KNOWN TO BE RECORDED IN THE DIRECTORY ABOVE REFERRED TO.

Cholly—Pushing sort of fellow, that. Miss Knox—How thoughtful of him! He has been trying to cultivate my A little cultivation wouldn't hurt you society lately—
a bit.—Philadelphia Ledger.

WEATHER.

Western Oregon and Washington—Fair.
Eastern Oregon and Washington—Fair and warmer.

THE COLUMBIA BAR.

Astoria has her ambitions; she has a right to them; nature has done much to inspire them and keep them alive. Among her yearnings, is that of becoming a great sea-port. She lies upon a magnificent bay just within one of the noblest marine gateways upon this side of the Pacific, and her aspiration for commercial pre-eminence is justifiable and wholly reasonable.

In the past she has contended somewhat selfishly, perhaps, for this supreme advantage and always hopelessly. Her time has not yet arrived, however inevitable it may be; and now, to place herself in an attitude, less of selfish antagonism, and more of prideful effort for the great state she must always stand for, she will contend honestly, and strenuously, for a 40-foot channel over the Columbia river bar, for the immense and lasting good it will do the whole State of Oregon, its metropolis included.

All she asks for is that a sensible, effective, consecutive course of improvement be undertaken, at once, for the establishment and maintenance of that deep channel on the sea barrier that shall open up the whole wide territory of Oregon to the commerce of the world; that the mouth of the Columbia river and that great river itself (together with all the cities and towns that touch upon it directly and indirectly), be made what it should have been long years ago, a safe, available, constant, and famous avenue to a line of ports that have something to receive from the world at large, and plenty to yield in return; that the men in interest, in Portland, and elsewhere throughout the state whatsoever their interests may be, business, commercial, politics, official, unofficial, technical, lay or merely superficial, shall come down here and scan the situation, on the ground, and decide for themselves, the momentous question of expedients and the value of their instant application. It is no issue to be cavalierly disposed of at the dictum of some newspaper, nor upon the hypothesis put forward in a magazine article; it is a matter of huge significance and worthy the deliberate and faithful scrutiny of the best and brainiest men in the commonwealth, for it is a commonwealth matter and not the segregated nor dissociated problem of any one city or section.

Therefore, we ask that it be ignored no longer; that the best talent and the largest interests in wide Oregon, be invoked for the saving of the tremendous elements of trade and traffic, with which it is pregnant, to the state at large.

We believe, that for temporary purposes, the engagement of the dredger Chinook upon the bar during the next four or five months, will do what is immediately necessary, while the larger schemes for its final and permanent development are being formulated and to be put in immediate practice when they are wrought out.

What the ultimate idea may be for preserving the great sea channel for all time to come, we know not, nor care, so long as it shall be absolutely effective. The completion of the south jetty and the installation of the north sea wall and the subsequent attritive force of the tides, or the regular maintenance of a bar dredger at all times and seasons; whatever may come, and come to stay, we shall hail with immense satisfaction, and with the rest of Oregon, glory in the splendid results.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

The butter made annually in the United States somewhat exceeds 1,500,000,000 pounds and requires the milk from 10,000,000 cows. These cows are kept on something like 4,000,000 farms and furnish occupation, wholly or in part, for about 7,000,000, or nearly 10 per cent of the population. The total value of the output of butter is nearly \$300,000,000, which is a little more than 5 per cent of all the agricultural products of the United States. Considered as a crop, it is exceeded in valuation only by corn, wheat, hay, forage and cotton.

And up-to-date twentieth century farmer reads his local paper. He wants to know what his neighbors are doing, what is happening in the world around him and he wants in many cases to study the advertisements and find where he can buy goods the cheapest. He don't say much about it perhaps when he goes to the store to do his trading, but just let a merchant advertise a special bargain and see if the up-to-date farmer don't find it out and take advantage of it.

The farmer's work at this time of the year is hard. It wrings the sweat from the brow. Night finds our bodies weary and longing for rest but how soundly we sleep! And the new garden stuff, fresh and crisp, gives us an appetite. To be able to work, eat, sleep, look up and enjoy this glorious June weather, are all things for which to be thankful.

Alexander Berkman anarchist, says he is going to write a book about his prison life to be called "To Hell and Back." It should be appropriately bound in full calf with "guilt" edges.

Mr. Bryon is a good politician and knows well how to grow in strength with the people. He has already made his plans to spend another year out of the country.

There are some things that not only spoil but become dangerous by being kept too long on ice; pure food bills for instance. Congressmen take note.

Judging from the trustees' report, New York's new library is in less danger from the book-worm than from the lazy bug and the red-tape worm.

It was noisier at old Banker Hill yesterday and the day before than it was in 1775.

People who are clean inside will look like it and act it. They will work with energy, think clearly, act clearly and have healthy thoughts. Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. It makes clean people. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets. Frank Hart, druggist.

"James, my son, did you take that letter to the postoffice and pay the postage on it?"
"Father, I send a lot of men putting letters in a little place and when no one was looking I slipped in yours for nothing!"—Harper's Weekly.

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